

Appln. No. 09/160,604
Amendment dated March 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of December 13, 2003

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the first paragraph beginning at page 15, line 1 of the specification as follows:

d In the ordinary AF mode, as shown in ~~FIG. 2A~~ FIG. 2A data is read out from all the lines of the imaging area 5a (of the CCD 5) indicated by hatching or the entire imaging area. In the high speed AF mode, however, as shown in FIG. 2B, a partial read operation is performed to read out data from the central area 29a, i.e., some lines (e.g., n lines) near the central portion of the imaging area 5a in the vertical direction which is indicated by hatching (the data in the white portions are discarded).